



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

60 State Street, Wethersfield, CT 06161

<http://ct.gov/dmv>



***Testimony of Department of Motor Vehicles Commissioner Melody A.
Currey
Transportation Committee Public Hearing
February 20, 2013***

**HB 5187 – AN ACT REQUIRING ANNUAL SAFETY INSPECTIONS FOR ALL
MOTOR VEHICLES.**

Good morning Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrero, Senator Boucher,
Representative Scribner and other members of the Transportation Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 5187. This bill would require annual safety inspections for all motor vehicles registered in Connecticut. While DMV certainly desires to keep the motoring public and its roads safe from vehicles that should not be operating, the Department does not believe annual inspections would achieve the desired effect.

Based upon historical data, there appears to be no statistically significant correlation between mechanical failure of vehicles and accident rates. According to an Office of Legislative Research Report from 2007 (OLR Report 2007-R-0591), the major contributing factors to accidents in Connecticut are almost entirely behavioral (driver related) or environmental (road or weather conditions).

Also, we are concerned this proposed legislation would place potentially enormous financial burdens on the residents of Connecticut as well as the Department to perform such annual safety inspections. The DMV would need a significant increase in funding in order to manage and implement such a program, even if the Department was able to utilize independent contractors, automotive repairers and motor vehicle dealers to assist with the inspections as outlined in this bill.

While the Department certainly wants to ensure its highways and roads are safe from vehicles that should not be on the road, we feel this legislation will not accomplish that goal. For this reason, combined with the expected significant costs to implement such a program, we respectfully oppose this bill.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on this legislation.